

MINUTES OF APRIL 21TH, 2008

The council of the city of Burlingame, Kansas met in regular session in the council chamber at city hall at 7:00 p.m., April 21, 2008.

Presiding: Mayor Brenda Dorr
Present: Councilmembers: Bloomquist, Strohm, DeMars, Swander
Absent: Fry
Present also: City Administrator Hutfles, City Attorney Godderz, Utilities Foreman Grandstaff and City Clerk Gilbert.

Citizens Present: Leann Smiley with Burlingame Chamber of Commerce, Susan DeMars, Justin Hufley, Phillip Parsons and Glenn Adamson of the Herald-Chronicle Newspaper.

Approval of Agenda was given after Mayor Dorr added a consent item for placement of a Library Board member, Councilmember Strohm asked for an item to be placed for clarification on the transformer, and Mayor Dorr added a non-elected personnel executive session, by Bloomquist and with a second by Swander. Ayes 4/ Nays 0

Citizen's Comments: No comments at this time.

Approval of Minutes was given after correction by DeMars and second by Bloomquist. Ayes 4/ Nays 0

Christopher Gallaway of the power plant was appointed to the KMEA Board of Directors as Director #2 by Bloomquist with a second by Strohm. Ayes 4/ Nays 0

March 2008 Financial Statement was viewed with Administrator Hutfles stating our revenues did exceed our expenditures. Also noting that budget-wise our expenditures are less than 33% for this quarter. The utility fund analysis shows our daily operating cash has increased as suggested by the auditor to keep positive cash flow to stay in the black. Mayor Dorr asked on the item of the wholesale water sale, with Mr. Hutfles stating it was the Harveyville water purchase and it will take some time to know exactly what they will be using. Motion to accept by DeMars and Swander second. Ayes 4/ Nays 0

Motion to accept Claims Ordinance No. 2126 & 2126a was given after Mr. Bloomquist stating he has seen this on other stuff, \$163.00 on mower blades for a snapper mower. He believes it should be bought in town; nothing should be bought outside the city that could be purchased here. If the purchase price is \$10.00 more then it should be bought here, Topeka does not pay for utilities here. In the future Mr. Bloomquist declared he would not put his signature on anything that is bought elsewhere when it could be bought here unless they can prove there is a large price difference. Mayor Dorr question the amount for the hotel on the water conference, Mr. Hutfles said it was for 3 nights and City Clerk Gilbert said the price was more due to the short time frame of placing the reservations and missed out on the block time. Mayor Dorr questioned the annual renewal from Symantec with Ms. Gilbert clarifying it was anti-virus for one of the computers in City Hall. Mayor Dorr questioned how many whistles and bands were bought. Mr. Hutfles replied 5 whistles and 5 bands with the cost of the material being reimbursed from the residents. Mayor Dorr clarified they are sold at cost. Motion was given by Bloomquist and second by DeMars. Ayes 4/ Nays 0

Library Board appointment began with Mayor Dorr verifying it was a resignation replacement. Kendra Douglas has resigned and wanting to appoint Monica Greenwood in her place. Mr. Hutfles stated it was Donelda Sage's recommendation. Motion to appoint Monica Greenwood was given by Bloomquist with a second from Strohm. Ayes 4/ Nays 0

Leann Smiley with the Chamber of Commerce spoke before the Council regarding Rodeo Days and the closure of Santa Fe Ave. Ms. DeMars stated if all the activities were all in one area or could it be condensed down to take less area. Mayor Dorr questioned Mrs. Smiley on what they had planned for downtown. Mrs. Smiley said as of today they had about 10 vendors already signed up. Mrs. Smiley explained where all the activities were planned around the chosen area. Motion to close off the 100 block of West Santa Fe Ave by DeMars and second by Bloomquist. Ayes 4/ Nays 0

Authorization of the Leak Survey for the gas distribution that had been requested by KCC began the discussion. Mr. Hutfles reported he spoke with KCC and it is highly recommended for a 3rd party to do the leak survey. It is standard practice for a 3rd party when a gas system has a high unaccounted for gas. Mr. Hutfles reported to KCC that 2 employees with gas knowledge have returned to the city, however with that the KCC stated they felt they would not accept that leak survey. It was pointed out the survey only need to be within the city limits as if it was a high-pressure line it would be more noticeable. KCC suggested to Mr. Hutfles if a 3rd party didn't participate they could mandate all leak surveys be done by another party and as often as every 6 months. Motion to accept contracting the leak survey to not exceed the price of \$3,550.00 was given by Swander with a second by DeMars. Ayes 3/ Nays 1 Bloomquist

Discussion regarding the main transformer began with updating Mrs. Strohm from the last meeting. Mrs. Strohm stated after the article in the paper she has had a lot of questions. Mr. Hutfles explained due to the size of our transformer we have a load constraint, only being able to take in 2100 KW. He explained on the buyback that was covered before and explained the difference in the credit Westar will give. Councilmember Strohm asked are we getting a cash yearly/monthly sum now. Mr. Hutfles stated we are now getting a monthly credit in the amount of \$300.00. Mrs. Strohm asked that if we don't do this we are going to have to come up with the difference. Mr. Hutfles agree that utility bills will be higher. Mrs. Strohm stated it stands to reason that if we put in this bigger transformer it wouldn't pay for itself over time. Mr. Hutfles responded he has contacted companies that help small municipalities. Ms. DeMars asked the administrator to repeat the amount that was stated at the last council meeting. Mr. Hutfles replied about \$250,000.00 also having to look at the ammortization level, if a loan is taking out for that amount, taking the interest rate and compare it how much it will cost us compared to what we will get in credit. It could be beneficial for the city but until Mr. Hutfles gets concrete number he couldn't say. Mrs. Strohm states they are telling us right now that in a year or two they will be cutting back somewhere down the road, also cutting us more because we aren't updating our transformer. Mrs. Strohm feels we will have to buy it anyway and who knows what the price will be down the road. She says what will happen if they can't get more power to us and we cannot generate? Mr. Hutfles stated we would be looking at a rolling brownout situation. Mrs. Strohm stated that if we are only looking at right now instead of 5 years down the road, we aren't doing our job. No motion required on this matter.

103 North Dacotah Ave was addressed next with the new owner Justin Hefley, with just starting on repairs. Mr. Hefley notified the council he has decided to move to the house after repairs are made. He gave details of some of the repairs and cleans up on the outside.

The condition of the Burlingame Library was the next action on the table. Mayor Dorr asked Council if anyone had a chance to look at the condition of the building. Mayor Dorr said she had a question on the bid that was submitted by Mr. Hutfles. Mr. Hutfles stated a 20-year warranty was included, and was assured most of the cracks should close. However a few more bids were expected in the near future. Mr. Hutfles noted it is a budgeted item. Ms. DeMars asked about the steel beams and if that would be covered in the warranty. Mr. Hutfles gave the measurements of the sinking and also and inside repairs are not included with this repair, which would be work that is over and above the mud-jacking price. There is a spot inside on the floor that included in the price would be cutting out a section of the cement floor and replacing that section. Discussion over repair in the past to the library. Motion to table this item until more bids are in by Swander and second by DeMars. Ayes 4/ Nays 0

The Utility Trip Charge dialogue began by Mr. Hutfles noting Councilmember Swander requested this item be addressed particularly the trip charge pertaining to customers that are in a non-payment shutoff status. Mr. Bloomquist questioned why put more hardship on the citizens, and Mayor Dorr added some people don't prioritize their money. Ms. DeMars felt it didn't take the public works employees that long to justify a raise in the fee. Ms. Gilbert stated if a resident had a problem such as water, have the fee waived. Councilmembers DeMars and Bloomquist stated they would not agree with any change in the charge. Mayor Dorr asked what motion is on the table, Councilmember Swander entered a motion to change the utility bill to the recommendation of step-trip charges as follows, first \$50.00, second \$75.00, third \$100.00 and fourth and each time after \$150.00. Motion died due to lack of a second.

Motion to move into executive session for 15 minutes regarding non-elected personnel with Attorney Godderz was given by DeMars and second by Swander. Ayes 4/ Nays 0

Council entered into executive session 8:05 pm.

Council returned to open session at 8:20 pm.

Mayor Dorr stated no action taken in executive session.

Motion to move into executive session for 15 minutes regarding non-elected personnel with Attorney Godderz was given by Swander and second by DeMars. Ayes / Nays 1 Bloomquist

Council entered into executive session 8:18 pm.

Council returned to open session at 8:33 pm.

Mayor Dorr stated no action taken in executive session.

Reports: City Administrator Hutfles stated he had a few issues with the resignation of Larry Cline, placing ads for Labor II and summer help, with lifeguards included. Noting Mr. Grandstaff reported to him there is cracking at the top of the pool, contacting Mid-America Pool they relayed stretching is a common occurrence. The new computer has been installed and is up and running now. The School Board has requested the oil tank on the edge of their property be moved, Mr. Hutfles is trying to locate someone to move it noting it would be an additional cost. Mayor Dorr asked clarification on the Laborer II position if full or part-time. Mr. Hutfles stated it would be

part-time. Crossroads Wireless is beginning installation of the antenna at the water tower. Mr. Hutfles attended the Southern Star customer meeting, reporting they are increasing the storage fill, replacing lines and capital projects meaning their rates are going to increase. Radio 106.9 is offering radio ads for Rodeo Days at the same price as of last year and Mr. Hutfles stated he hasn't committed yet and the money in the budget for advertisement is going for the ad in the local paper.

City Clerk Gilbert reported attending the state's budget class, giving details of the class. Mr. Hutfles added Rheanna Routh is at work and is learning well.

Utility Foreman Grandstaff wanted to thank everyone that had helped with citywide cleanup. Mr. Grandstaff asked the council on direction over statements and the charging. Council directed the Utility Foreman is to supply the office with any items and prices needing to be charged to any resident for hook-up. After much discussion Mr. Godderz gave the opinion that the city is not in the retail business.

Councilmember DeMars asked to meet with the city administrator over the School Board meeting.

Councilmember Strohm requested the public utility department to please pick up the broken picnic table at the Sumner Park.

Mayor Dorr reported to the City Administrator that the condition of the Silver Dollar bar needed to be looked at. Mrs. Dorr reported also she had a citizen approach her stating how Officer Dudley had sat with her when she had hit a deer the week before. The citizen was very thankful for the time he took to wait until the county arrived. Mayor Dorr then asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion to adjourn by Swander with a second by Bloomquist. Ayes 4/ Nays 0

City Clerk